What is claimed:

1. A method of providing a known-good configuration for a computer, comprising:

    storing a known-good computer configuration; and

5   restoring the known-good configuration via non-interactive user input.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the non-interactive user input is selected from the group consisting of a protected switch, a switch, a hotkey, a key combination, and a special-purpose keyboard key.

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3. The method of claim 2, wherein the known-good configuration comprises hardware configuration.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein the hardware configuration comprises at least one

15   configuration component selected from the group consisting of address space data, IRQ data, DMA data, DMI data, and plug and play hardware configuration data.

5. The method of claim 2, wherein the known-good configuration comprises software configuration.

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6. The method of claim 5, wherein the software configuration comprises at least one configuration component selected from the group consisting of .sys file data, .ini file

data, operating system configuration file data, Microsoft Windows registry data, and

hardware device driver files.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein storing a known-good computer configuration

5   comprises storing an incremental configuration that comprises those changes made to

the configuration since a previous stored configuration.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein storing a known-good configuration comprises

storing the configuration on at least one device selected from the group consisting of a

10   hard disk drive, a diskette, a network server, and a hard disk protected area.

9. A method of restoring a known-good configuration on a computer, comprising

actuating a non-interactive user input that causes software executing on the computer

to restore the known-good configuration.

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10. The method of claim 9, wherein the non-interactive user input is selected from the

group consisting of a protected switch, a switch, a hotkey, a key combination, and a

special-purpose keyboard key.

20   11. A method of storing a known-good configuration of a computer, comprising:

     determining that a current configuration of the computer is known to be good;

     triggering storage of the known-good configuration; and

storing the known-good configuration on a machine-readable medium via software in response to the trigger.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein determining that a current configuration of the computer is known good comprises determination by a user that the configuration is known good and is to be stored.

13. The method of claim 11, wherein determining that a current configuration of the computer is known good comprises determining that the computer has operated for a predetermined time with the current configuration.

14. The method of claim 11, wherein determining that a current configuration of the computer is known good comprises determining that a predetermined number of application executions have been performed with the current configuration.

15. The method of claim 11, wherein determining that a current configuration of the computer is known good comprises determining that an operating system on the computer has booted a predetermined number of times with the current configuration.

16. A machine-readable medium with instructions stored thereon, the instructions when executed operable to cause a computer to:

store a known-good computer configuration; and

restore the known-good configuration via non-interactive user input.

17. The machine-readable medium of claim 16, wherein the non-interactive user input

5   is selected from the group consisting of a protected switch, a switch, a hotkey, a key

combination, and a special-purpose keyboard key.

18. A machine-readable medium with instructions stored thereon, the instructions

when executed operable to cause a computer to restore a known-good configuration

10   via non-interactive user input.

19. A computer, comprising a noninteractive user input that when actuated causes

software executing on the computer to restore a known-good configuration..

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